

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 192136
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 192136

STADIS////////////////////////////////////
EXDIS DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, US, IS, EGY

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS ON MIDDLE EAST PEACE NEGOTIATIONS

FOR AMBASSADORS AND CHARGES FROM SAUNDERS

CAIRO FOR ATHERTON
SECRET

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1. AS YOU KNOW THE SECRETARY IS PLANNING SHORTLY TO GO TO
JERUSALEM AND CAIRO FOR TALKS WITH BEGIN AND SADAT AND THEN
ON TO THE SINAI FIELD MISSION FOR A MEETING WITH THE FOREIGN
AND DEFENSE MINISTERS OF EGYPT AND ISRAEL. TRIP IS
SCHEDULED TO BEGIN ON AUGUST 5 AND SFM CONFERENCE SHOULD
END ON AUGUST 11.

2. WE HOPE IN THIS NEXT ROUND OF TALKS TO BEGIN MOVING THE NEGOTIATIONS FORWARD AND I THINK IT WOULD BE PARTICULARLY USEFUL AFTER THE SFM MEETINGS TO HAVE CONSULTATIONS WITH OUR CLOSE FRIENDS IN THE AREA AND OTHERS MOST IMMEDIATELY INTERESTED. SINCE THE SECRETARY MUST RETURN TO THE U.S. ON AUGUST 12, WHAT I AM CONSIDERING IS POSSIBILITY OF ROY ATHERTON AND MYSELF BREAKING OFF IN DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS BEGINNING AUGUST 12 FOR TALKS WITH THE TOP PEOPLE IN YOUR CAPITALS. PERIOD INVOLVED WOULD BE APPROXI-

MATELY AUGUST 12-15. COULD YOU PLEASE GIVE ME YOUR BEST ESTIMATE OF WHETHER SENIORMOST PEOPLE WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR CONSULTATION DURING THAT PERIOD. I WOULD PREFER THAT THIS NOT BE RAISED FORMALLY WITH GOVERNMENTS AT THIS TIME, BUT IF YOU NEED TO TAKE INFORMAL SOUNDINGS OF A CLOSE CONTACT, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO USE YOUR DISCRETION.

3. FOR DAMASCUS: WE RECOGNIZE THAT SYRIANS HAVE PREFERRED NOT TO HAVE ATHERTON VISIT DAMASCUS BECAUSE OF HIS IDENTIFICATION WITH THE EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI TALKS. IF THIS REMAINS THEIR ATTITUDE, DO YOU THINK THEY WOULD HAVE PROBLEM IN RECEIVING ME?

4. PLEASE SEND INFO COPIES OF YOUR REPLIES TO JERUSALEM
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FOR ATHERTON AND CLASSIFY STADIS-NEA ONLY. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CAT-B, MINISTERIAL VISITS, PLANNING MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE192136
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: CEK
Enclosure: NEA ONLY
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: n/a
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978076/aaaaaeop.tel
Line Count: 95
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Message ID: 92039e73-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS, STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS, STADIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2006099
Secure: LOCK1
Status: <DBA CHANGED> MCM 20040610
Subject: CONSULTATIONS ON MIDDLE EAST PEACE NEGOTIATIONS
TAGS: OVIP, PDIP, US, IS, EG, XF, (ATHERTON, ALFRED L JR), (SAUNDERS, HAROLD)
To: DAMASCUS AMMAN MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/92039e73-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014